#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Tuesday, February 20, 2001

Telephone interview of Mrs. Susan Schnur by National Transportation Safety Board Investigator Julie

Beal.

1	PROCEEDINGS
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3	MS. BEAL: Let me just begin by saying that
4	my name is Julie Beal. I'm with the National
5	Transportation Safety Board in Washington, D.C.
6	This interview is being conducted in
7	furtherance of our investigation of the U.S.S.
8	Greenville and the Ehime Maru off the coast of Pearl
9	Harbor, Hawaii.
10	And if you would please state your name for
11	the record and spell it?
12	MS. SCHNUR: Okay. It's Susan. You want
13	to spell the first name, too?
14	MS. BEAL: No, your last name
15	MS. SCHNUR: Okay. It's Susan Schnur, S-C-
16	H-N-U-R.
17	MS. BEAL: Great. And would you give your
18	address, please, for the record?
19	MS. SCHNUR: (Address omitted from
20	transcript)
21	MS. BEAL: Very good. And Mrs. Schnur, if
22	you would just in your own words take your time and
23	walk through the events from the time you arrived at
24	the naval base at Pearl Harbor and just describe for
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- 1 the record, please, if you would, basically what you
- were told, you know, any announcements or briefings
- 3 that you heard, what you saw, what you heard, what
- 4 you did. Just sort of walk me through the events of
- 5 the day starting at the time that maybe you arrived
- 6 at Pearl Harbor, which I understand was around 8:30
- 7 a.m.? Is that correct?
- 8 MS. SCHNUR: I -- I don't -- I don't
- 9 remember the exact time. I remember that -- that we
- were meeting to leave the hotel at 5:30.
- MS. BEAL: Okay. Well, --
- MS. SCHNUR: But you're probably right. By
- 13 the time that we -- we waited for a while for Ro.
- 14 She's the -- she was the naval escort.
- MS. BEAL: Uh huh.
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: We waited for her in the
- 17 parking lot before we were even on the base, and we
- 18 probably waited there a good half hour. And then we
- 19 -- we followed her in -- in our -- in our van, and I
- 20 believe we had two cars with the 14 people that --
- 21 that our particular group was with.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: And we just followed her in --
- 24 to the side of the submarine.

- 1 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: And once we got to the
- 3 submarine --
- 4 MS. BEAL: Did she give any briefing prior
- 5 to your boarding the submarine?
- 6 MS. SCHNUR: I don't remember. I -- I -- I
- 7 do not remember any briefing. I remember she -- she
- 8 accepted -- we had signed waivers and she took
- 9 those. And when we got to the side of the submarine
- 10 there was a chief of staff there. His name was
- 11 something Brandhuber. And he met us, shook our
- 12 hands, and invited us aboard. I also believe the
- 13 captain met us outside the submarine too, but I
- don't remember that for sure.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: And then we were all escorted
- 17 into the -- the mess, the -- the crew's mess. And
- 18 there we were asked to be seated and then we
- 19 received a briefing.
- MS. BEAL: Okay. Can you describe the
- 21 briefing a little bit?
- 22 MS. SCHNUR: Well, it was -- it was very
- 23 casual. We had a general slide show from the XO
- 24 Pfeiffer. I think that was who did it. And then a

1 couple other people spoke. And they just showed us 2 the general -- general things about the Navy and 3 submarines, nothing -- nothing terribly specific. 4 And I think -- I -- I just -- I don't 5 remember the specifics of who said what where. 6 in general they told us that -- that it was going to 7 be a great day and we were going to be getting 8 tours, we would have a chance to go up on the 9 bridge, that we'd have a -- a chance to go stand up outside as we were leaving the port, not once we 10 were getting into the choppier waters. But 11 12 everything and everywhere that we went was -- was going to be carefully escorted. 13 14 He told us the areas, and when I say "he" I 15 do not remember who specifically. But they told us that -- that we could not go -- the areas we could 16 not go in, and specifically that was the -- the 17 reactor area, and he showed us which door and said 18 do not go past here at all. That -- that -- that's 19 20 a no-no. But he said since somebody'll always be with you you'll -- you'll know that -- that there'll 21 22 always be someone to tell you you can't go in there. 23 MS. BEAL: Let me -- could I ask a couple

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questions here?

1	MS. SCHNUR: Okay.
2	MS. BEAL: What was the size of your group?
3	MS. SCHNUR: The group that we were in,
4	there was 14. And then there was another couple who
5	ended up coming down to the crew's mess as we were
6	seated.
7	MS. BEAL: Okay.
8	MS. SCHNUR: And we did not know them.
9	MS. BEAL: Okay.
10	Okay. That was all. Go ahead. So you're
11	so you were showed now off the reactor area's
12	off limits, and go ahead.
13	MS. SCHNUR: Yeah. And he told us that
14	that there were we might encounter other things
15	and he would he would tell us what is off-limits
16	and what is not. And they talked about general
17	don't touch any buttons, don't don't do anything
18	without the permission of. They had us they
19	handed out some literature on on submarines and
2.0	
20	they went over it just very, very, very briefly.
21	
	they went over it just very, very, very briefly.
21	they went over it just very, very, very briefly.  And they also told us that if we had brought cameras

1	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
2	MS. SCHNUR: And and they said that
3	that some of the areas that were off-limits were
4	sonar and the can't remember what other areas
5	they said. Anything that showed what what level
6	they were, what depth, that that was going to be
7	off-limits. But again, they said don't worry, we
8	will definitely let you know when when pictures
9	are not permitted.
10	MS. BEAL: Okay.
11	MS. SCHNUR: And then, at that point the
12	captain the captain was in there sporadically, I
13	just don't remember what parts of the speech that he
14	gave. But at that point
15	MS. BEAL: Okay. But this is all still
16	taking place in the crew mess, correct?
17	MS. SCHNUR: Yeah, we were all just sitting
18	in the crew's mess.
19	MS. BEAL: Okay.
20	MS. SCHNUR: They had us they had
21	styrofoam cups and they had us put a name or a
22	design on them and they said that they were going to
23	be throwing those out in, like, a mesh bag outside

24 as we submerged. And then when we got back up, when

- 1 it was time to leave they would -- they would bring
- 2 those back in for us and -- and they -- we could see
- 3 what the pressure does to those.
- 4 So anyway, they were just -- they were just
- 5 kind of setting up the tour and trying to get us
- 6 excited for the things that we were going to see and
- 7 assuring us that it would be safe and we would be --
- 8 we would totally enjoy it.
- 9 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 10 MS. SCHNUR: And then at the time he said -
- the captain said, we'll bring a group of you, and
- 12 I don't recall how many 'cause I was not involved in
- 13 that group, and you can go out and stand outside the
- 14 -- and I don't remember what they call -- it's the
- long part of the sub where people can stand outside
- of. And they all had to put on life -- life
- 17 preservers --
- 18 MS. BEAL: Right.
- 19 MS. SCHNUR: -- whatever. I just don't
- 20 remember what that -- that is called. It's like the
- 21 platform out -- actually outside where the water's
- 22 on both sides but -- but there were officers or
- 23 crewmen up there with them.
- MS. BEAL: Right.

1 MS. SCHNUR: And then -- and then he said 2 that he would take four up to the bridge. And that was -- we -- we -- I should say, "I." Tony and I 3 4 had a chance to go up on that particular part. 5 they -- they strapped us with I don't know what you call them but very protective gear to as when we got 6 7 up there we were strapped onto railings up on the 8 bridge. And -- and the bridge is -- is that -- that 9 part that sticks way up. 10 MS. BEAL: Right. 11 MS. SCHNUR: Up on the top. 12 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. 13 MS. SCHNUR: And so we were up there with 14 the captain and there were two other crewmen there 15 up there at the time. I believe that's where they 16 steer. And then I don't recall how long we were up there, but we -- we were up there for a good --17 minimum five -- five minutes. 18 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. 19 20 MS. SCHNUR: Perhaps more than that. 21 And from that point on, we went back 2.2 downstairs, and I think we were back in the crew's 23 mess for -- for a while. And then we were taken on

a tour. And most of our tour was conducted by -- I

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- don't remember what his rank was, but it was Meador,
- 2 M-E-A-D-O-R. And he took us on a -- on a very
- 3 extensive tour of the submarine. And he -- he gave
- 4 detailed explanations of -- of things that,
- 5 obviously, he was allowed to and he was very, very
- 6 good about answering questions.
- 7 But he -- he took us to all the parts of
- 8 the submarine that we were allowed or cleared to
- 9 see.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: I could never take you in
- 12 order of -- of --
- MS. BEAL: Right.
- MS. SCHNUR: -- of what we did --
- MS. BEAL: That's fine.
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: -- because there were so many
- 17 things. And I -- I'm not -- I'm not -- I'm not a
- 18 guy so those kinds of things it was very neat to see
- 19 but I could never retain what it is I saw.
- MS. BEAL: Right.
- 21 MS. SCHNUR: But I found it to be very
- 22 interesting. They were very polite. They never
- left us. He was very good about introducing us to
- other crew members. The other crew members were

- 1 very, very kind, very helpful, very informative if
- 2 there were questions. If -- if we were -- like,
- 3 specifically in the torpedo room. He sometimes
- 4 allowed other crew members to tell us what it is
- 5 that they do because that may have been their
- 6 particular piece of equipment or their particular
- 7 specialty.
- 8 And then -- then after that I think we --
- 9 we ended up back up in the control room.
- MS. BEAL: Now, are you still -- the group
- 11 has been broken into a smaller group now?
- MS. SCHNUR: The group has been broken up
- into a smaller group but I think that there were --
- there may have been eight of us.
- MS. BEAL: Okay. So about half and half?
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: I think it was about half and
- 17 half.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: And it probably was that way
- 20 because they also split us up for lunch --
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: -- and they -- they could only
- 23 do half at a time.
- But there were -- there were one or two

- 1 that got seasick and ended up having to lie down in
- 2 -- in the officer's quarters from our group, so --
- 3 so there were -- there were never the same people
- 4 there at -- at the same time.
- 5 But anyway, after -- after the -- the main
- 6 tour we went up to the control room. And at that
- 7 time we were not submerged. We were still on top.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 9 MS. SCHNUR: I think. I don't remember. I
- don't remember when we actually submerged.
- 11 MS. BEAL: It's tough when there are no
- 12 windows, huh?
- MS. SCHNUR: No -- exactly.
- 14 (Laughter)
- MS. SCHNUR: Exactly. And they -- they
- 16 showed us -- there wasn't a whole lot of explanation
- 17 as to what everything was in the control room, but
- 18 they just -- they just kind of allowed us to watch
- 19 and see what was going on, which wasn't a whole lot
- 20 at the time.
- 21 And then -- then somebody stuck their head
- 22 out of the sonar room and said that they had found
- live whales and that if we were interested we could
- 24 go in and listen. So we did go in and we listened,

- 1 and we were in there a good 10 to 15 minutes just
- 2 kind of listening the whales and -- and the two --
- 3 there were actually three crew members in there at
- 4 the time. Just kind of explained their job and --
- 5 and allowed us to listen and it was just -- just
- 6 that -- that is what it was.
- 7 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 8 MS. SCHNUR: And at the time we were doing
- 9 that I think the first round of lunch was going on.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 11 MS. SCHNUR: Because I recall a few times
- 12 the XO Pfeiffer kept saying that he was going to go
- down and push them along because they were taking a
- 14 long time eating. I believe the commander was down
- 15 with that first group and they -- and he led the
- 16 first lunch.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 18 MS. SCHNUR: And so this -- this time we
- 19 were just kind of -- just looking around, constantly
- 20 being supervised or -- or being watched or being led
- 21 or being instructed but -- but we just kind of spent
- 22 a lot of time up there until it was time for us to
- go down to lunch. And then we switched off the
- 24 groups. I think the groups went upstairs and we

- 1 went down, and we had our lunch.
- 2 And then I think when we got done with
- 3 lunch, and -- and -- again, I'm not 100 percent
- 4 sure, but I think that's when we went up because it
- 5 was time to start maneuvers.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 7 MS. SCHNUR: Again, I do not remember when
- 8 we submerged, but at some point we did. Yeah, I --
- 9 I just don't remember. We may have been during
- 10 lunch. I just do not remember.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. That's fine.
- MS. SCHNUR: I just -- I just -- I cannot
- 13 remember. But then we eventually all ended up in
- 14 the control room. And I specifically -- by the time
- 15 we got up there there was room for me to stand and
- 16 not -- not feel uncomfortable or feel like I was in
- 17 anybody's way. I was standing -- it was kind of a
- 18 big, heavy desk thing off to the -- off to the right
- 19 shoulder of the commander but I was not right off
- 20 his shoulder. I was about five feet from -- five --
- 21 five to 10 feet from his shoulder. I'm not good
- 22 with the distance.
- MS. BEAL: Were these the tables with the
- 24 charts on them?

1	MS. SCHNUR: No, those were in the back.
2	MS. BEAL: Okay.
3	MS. SCHNUR: And I don't I don't have a
4	diagram 'cause I don't know what what they called
5	it, but there was like there was like the
6	place for the the skipper to stand, and he had a
7	microphone and behind him were the the two
8	periscopes and there was a red phone. That's where
9	he was. Off to his right several feet there was
10	there was a desk and it was I remember it very
11	clear it was a very small desk. It was like a
12	a square. It was or almost like a podium
	or advisors to make or animals the following
13	MS. BEAL: Okay.
13 14	
	MS. BEAL: Okay.
14	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I
14 15	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I remember deciding I wanted to stand there because it
14 15 16	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I remember deciding I wanted to stand there because it was not in any way near any any instruments and
14 15 16 17	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I remember deciding I wanted to stand there because it was not in any way near any any instruments and if I stood up next to it people could get around me.
14 15 16 17 18	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I remember deciding I wanted to stand there because it was not in any way near any any instruments and if I stood up next to it people could get around me. And also, if I held onto it as we were doing
14 15 16 17 18	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I remember deciding I wanted to stand there because it was not in any way near any any instruments and if I stood up next to it people could get around me. And also, if I held onto it as we were doing maneuvers the thing wouldn't move so that it was a
14 15 16 17 18 19	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I remember deciding I wanted to stand there because it was not in any way near any any instruments and if I stood up next to it people could get around me. And also, if I held onto it as we were doing maneuvers the thing wouldn't move so that it was a really easy thing to hold onto. I never had to put
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	MS. BEAL: Okay.  MS. SCHNUR: kind of a thing. And I remember deciding I wanted to stand there because it was not in any way near any any instruments and if I stood up next to it people could get around me. And also, if I held onto it as we were doing maneuvers the thing wouldn't move so that it was a really easy thing to hold onto. I never had to put my arms up or anything. I could I could stand

- 1 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 2 MS. SCHNUR: -- of anybody. And that's
- 3 where I stood for the maneuvers.
- 4 And to start the maneuvers he did several
- 5 side-by-side -- I don't remember if they called it
- 6 rolling or whatever, but it's where you would -- you
- 7 would veer off to the right several degrees and then
- 8 you would straighten out and then veer to the left
- 9 to several degrees. And then whatever. I don't --
- 10 I don't remember -- the angles. I think they called
- 11 'em angles.
- MS. BEAL: Uh huh. And who was operating
- 13 the -- the ship at that point?
- MS. SCHNUR: The commander.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: There was also an officer in
- 17 charge. His name was Cohen.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Okay.
- 19 MS. SCHNUR: But -- but primarily through
- 20 these maneuvers it -- it was -- I would say that --
- 21 well, all the commands were coming from the
- 22 commander.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: All the commands were coming

- 1 from the commander. And there were -- there were
- 2 several members of the crew in there, but I -- I
- 3 don't -- I do not know how many.
- 4 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 5 MS. SCHNUR: But he was being very specific
- 6 about what he wanted them to do and gauging how they
- 7 did after they did certain maneuvers and kind of
- 8 telling us what he was -- what he was looking for
- 9 and what -- what -- what angles he wanted to reach.
- 10 But again, that -- that -- that's really not my
- 11 forte so I wasn't paying that close attention as to
- 12 depth or -- or what angle they made or whatever. I
- was kind of in it for the sensation.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: And then after he did these --
- 16 these -- these angles he told us that we were going
- 17 to do "the blow." And I -- I -- I'll be honest
- 18 again. I was not paying that close of attention. I
- 19 had no idea I really needed to be. And I -- and I -
- 20 I -- I don't know if I knew exactly what it was we
- 21 were going to be doing. When he said that we were
- 22 going to be doing a blow and -- and letting water
- out of the -- and -- and coming straight up, I kind
- of had a -- had a visualization in my mind. But now

- 1 that I've seen the news reports and whatever it's
- very much, much clearer -- much, much clearer in my
- 3 mind what we were doing than it was at the time we
- 4 were doing it.
- 5 MS. BEAL: So he didn't -- at no point did
- 6 you get a briefing on what it was that this -- that
- 7 this maneuver was about?
- 8 MS. SCHNUR: Oh, he did. He -- he did
- 9 tell. I just -- I guess I wasn't --
- 10 MS. BEAL: You just didn't visualize it. I
- 11 see.
- MS. SCHNUR: -- following it or -- or
- 13 didn't -- it wasn't that I didn't care. I just -- I
- 14 guess I was deciding to myself -- I'm not a
- 15 mechanical -- mechanically-inclined person so I -- I
- 16 wasn't really following what it was he was saying.
- 17 He was speaking in -- in somewhat technical terms,
- 18 although I'm sure that people that were paying
- 19 attention, real close attention completely
- 20 understood what it was that -- that he was saying.
- 21 I guess I was just kind of absorbing and watching
- 22 and -- and not paying close enough attention to what
- it was we were doing.
- 24 And I had a very good grasp on this podium

- 1 thing and I knew that no matter what we did I
- 2 wouldn't have to worry about what -- which way we
- 3 were going or whatever, that I had a -- a good -- a
- 4 good firm grasp. And I was kind of out of the
- 5 action.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 7 MS. SCHNUR: I was -- I was away. I was --
- 8 I was away on the side where there really wasn't any
- 9 action.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Okay.
- 11 MS. SCHNUR: But he did. He did explain
- 12 what we were doing. I just --
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: -- I guess I -- I'm not sure
- that I cared enough to know precisely what it was we
- 16 were doing. I'm not the engineering type.
- 17 MS. BEAL: Right.
- MS. SCHNUR: But he did -- no, I will give
- 19 him credit. He did do a good job explaining. I
- 20 just -- it was me --
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: -- that wasn't really into it
- in that respect.
- 24 And so -- I'm trying to think of how the

1	sequence was.
2	And I can't tell you exactly what commands
3	he called out because, as I said, I wasn't I just
4	wasn't paying enough attention to what it was we
5	were trying to do, although when when he said we
6	were going to be coming up to periscope depth I
7	obviously understood what that meant because as we
8	got there the periscopes came down and Officer Cohen
9	did at least two sweeps. I thought it was three.
LO	And and we could see what he was seeing
L1	through the periscope because there was a flat
L2	screen monitor both in the where the controls
L3	were up towards it was would be up towards my
L 4	right, and that was a big screen. And then there
L5	was also a small screen kind of behind me over my
L6	left shoulder. And I could see it on the small
L7	screen and I could also see it on the big screen.
L8	So when he was sweeping I I knew that that we
L9	were at a point where where, obviously, we could
20	see outside.
21	And and and I didn't see anything. I
22	mean it looked to me like a bunch of nothing. It
23	was very white, very clear, although you could see

the shapes of the waves. I mean it -- it looked to

24

- 1 me like he was looking it and -- and it was clear.
- 2 And he was kind of announcing what it was he was
- 3 going to be doing.
- 4 And the XO Pfeiffer, he -- he was in the
- 5 sonar room and he kind of peeked out. And the
- 6 commander walked into the sonar room. I -- I do not
- 7 know for how long, but that kind of happened in
- 8 front of me 'cause I was very close to the sonar
- 9 room. And it wasn't very long. He came back out
- 10 and he said, let me take a look. And he did, I
- 11 thought, three sweeps with the periscope but it
- 12 could have been two. I don't know at what point his
- 13 rotation was complete, but I would say it was
- 14 between two and three sweeps. And again, didn't see
- 15 anything.
- 16 And during his sweeps Pfeiffer stuck his
- 17 head out of the sonar room again, and I don't
- 18 remember this conversation verbatim, but he said
- 19 something and the commander looked at him and said,
- 20 yes, XO, I saw it, I'm fully aware of it. And
- 21 Pfeiffer said something again, I do not remember.
- 22 And the commander said, yes, it's probably best that
- you stay in the sonar room. I do not know what that
- 24 meant, but that -- that was just something I

- 1 observed. 2 And then he finished the periscope sweep 3 and gave his commands to -- to do the blow. 4 do not remember technically, again, what -- what the 5 command was or -- or even the conversation that he had, but he was very, very in tune and very in 6 7 control of -- of what his commands were. And his 8 officers were paying strict attention to what it was 9 their particular jobs were. I mean they were extraordinarily professional. 10 11 I must go back, though. When we got on the 12 deck and we -- before we started doing these angles 13 and maneuvers the captain said, okay, we have 14 several guests up here and -- and I want you to know 15 that you're going to need to hang on, we're going to 16 be doing some moves. If you feel that this may disturb you or bother you in any way you may want to 17 go down and sit down in the -- in the crew 18 -- in the crew's mess. And he said, then you'll 19 20 also get some really good visualizations of the -there's -- they have, like, water coolers and juice 21 2.2 coolers, things like that.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: Doing angles he said you can -

- you can just see exactly how far you're turning
- 2 because of the angle that -- that the juice of the
- 3 liquids turn.
- 4 MS. BEAL: Hmm.
- 5 MS. SCHNUR: And he said that -- that you
- 6 might get a good view down there. He said, but if
- 7 you choose to stay on -- in -- in the control room I
- 8 have very strict rules. You do not get in the way,
- 9 you do not touch anything, and -- touch anything
- 10 without permission, and you do -- you do not talk.
- 11 And so he made those rules very clear.
- So -- so back into doing the thing. When
- 13 he was talking nobody responded unless he was --
- 14 actually speaking to a particular person, to which
- 15 he would tell that particular person he was talking
- 16 to them by name and they would respond to him.
- 17 MS. BEAL: Okay. So there was no talking
- 18 among the -- among the civilians?
- MS. SCHNUR: No.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 21 MS. SCHNUR: There may have been a couple
- little oohs and aahs when an angle were done or
- 23 maybe a laugh here and there, but it was nothing --
- 24 nothing that would have disturbed, that wouldn't

- 1 have been --
- 2 MS. BEAL: Right.
- 3 MS. SCHNUR: -- anything that would have
- 4 interfered with any commands. I think the crew
- 5 members were talking amongst themselves as well or -
- 6 or -- or telling -- they may have been telling
- 7 what point they were or numbers or whatever, but the
- 8 -- the only thing that you heard, really, was the
- 9 crew talking.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: And -- and everybody was very
- 12 respectful of that too because we didn't know what
- 13 was going on and -- and he made the rules very
- 14 clear.
- MS. BEAL: Right.
- MS. SCHNUR: As they did the entire day.
- 17 And I didn't see anybody and I know that I did not
- 18 disobey any of that as well.
- MS. BEAL: Hmm.
- 20 MS. SCHNUR: I -- I don't know. I think I
- 21 was very -- I can't say I was uncomfortable, but I -
- 22 I just never wanted to feel that I was in the way
- 23 so I -- I really made sure that when I was standing
- 24 somewhere that -- that I would never be in the

- 1 crew's way or things like that, and that was the
- 2 entire -- that was through the entire day. It
- 3 wasn't just for those particular maneuvers or for
- 4 the blow. I just -- I felt my place was to be,
- 5 maybe, seen and not heard and not be in the way --
- MS. BEAL: Yeah.
- 7 MS. SCHNUR: -- and that was just my --
- 8 MS. BEAL: Well, did you -- I mean were any
- 9 -- was there in any way any distractions that you
- saw created by the civilians in the command center?
- 11 MS. SCHNUR: I didn't see that.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 13 MS. SCHNUR: I -- I thought that everybody
- 14 was being very respectful.
- MS. BEAL: Good. Let me -- can I call you
- 16 Susan?
- 17 MS. SCHNUR: Yeah.
- MS. BEAL: Okay. Let me ask you just to
- 19 retrace one thing you told me now. Okay. You said
- 20 the commander looked through the periscopes and --
- 21 periscope and did at least two, possibly three
- sweeps?
- MS. SCHNUR: Yes.
- MS. BEAL: Okay. And then he went to the

1 sonar room? 2. MS. SCHNUR: No. 3 MS. BEAL: Run me -- run -- run that --4 MS. SCHNUR: No. 5 MS. BEAL: -- sequence --6 MS. SCHNUR: It was the other way around. 7 MS. BEAL: Okay. MS. SCHNUR: He -- he checked out something 8 9 in the sonar room and then came out and did his 10 sweeps. MS. BEAL: Okay. And then there was a 11 12 second set of sweeps, though, right? 13 MS. SCHNUR: Yes. 14 MS. BEAL: Okay. Run through that whole 15 sequence for me again, the sonar sweeps? 16 MS. SCHNUR: Well, the sonar -- the sonar's 17 different than the sweeps. The -- Cohen. the officer in charge. He -- he did the original 18 19 set of sweeps. 2.0 MS. BEAL: Periscope sweeps. I -- I was --21 MS. SCHNUR: Yeah, yeah. That's what they 22 -- that is what they call 'em. 23 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay. The first -- then

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the first periscope sweeps were performed by -- by

24

1 whom? 2 MS. SCHNUR: By Officer Cohen. 3 MS. BEAL: Cohen. Okay. 4 MS. SCHNUR: And the commander was -- you 5 know, and I -- I'm not 100 percent sure of when this 6 whole -- exactly when this sonar thing -- that 7 conversation happened. It was very fast. 8 MS. BEAL: Uh huh. Okay. 9 MS. SCHNUR: And I'm -- I'm just -- I'm not 10 100 percent sure of the -- of the exact timing of it, but I do know that -- that he came -- when he 11 12 came out from checking real quick whatever it was he 13 was checking --14 MS. BEAL: The commander? 15 MS. SCHNUR: -- he made sweeps. 16 MS. BEAL: I'm sorry. The -- when the 17 commander came out? MS. SCHNUR: Yes. 18 MS. BEAL: Okay. Then he went and did a 19 20 second set of sweeps? 2.1 MS. SCHNUR: Yes. 2.2 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.

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MS. SCHNUR: And so anyway, as -- as the

23

24

procedure started --

- 1 MS. BEAL: And what was his comment when he
- was coming out of the sonar room?
- 3 MS. SCHNUR: He said something to the
- 4 effect -- well, at some point and I -- I don't think
- 5 it was during his sweeps or -- or it might have -- I
- 6 don't -- I'm -- I'm just having a real tough time
- 7 exactly when. It was right around that time the XO
- 8 poked his head out. It may have been during Cohen's
- 9 sweeps. But he poked his head out and -- and the
- 10 commander looked up at him and said, yes, XO, I saw
- 11 that, I'm fully aware of it, and then whatever the
- 12 XO -- he made another comment that I didn't catch.
- 13 And he said, yeah, maybe it's best that you stay in
- 14 there for this procedure.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: And so the -- the XO was in
- 17 the sonar room the whole time.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 19 MS. SCHNUR: I think.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 21 MS. SCHNUR: At least that's where I saw
- 22 him go back. And I -- I didn't -- I don't recall
- 23 seeing him after that during the procedure.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.

1	MS. SCHNUR: So when he started the
2	procedure
3	(There was a click on the telephone line.)
4	MS. BEAL: Is that your phone?
5	MS. SCHNUR: It is, but I can
6	MS. BEAL: Okay.
7	MS. SCHNUR: ignore it.
8	MS. BEAL: Okay.
9	MS. SCHNUR: I've been ignoring that.
10	MS. BEAL: All right.
11	MS. SCHNUR: He asked I don't remember
12	what his commands were, but but he had a certain
13	specific set of commands and I could never for the
14	life of me ever remember what it was. But the
15	questions that that I keep hearing were yes,
16	there was a civilian who did something to start the
17	procedure. I think it it appeared to me to be
18	extraordinarily token
19	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
20	MS. SCHNUR: when he did it. But he did
21	have whoever was in charge of that particular piece
22	of machinery was right behind him and right with him
23	and it was explaining to him what it was that he
24	needed to do.

1	I didn't have a very good angle of that. I
2	couldn't couldn't see that very well 'cause I was
3	completely on the other side. But I I could kind
4	I could kind of see that that the officer was
5	right behind him, and in fact, he was what kept my
6	view from being on that that person who was doing
7	it.
8	And then then they had this other
9	civilian at the helm, and I remember that 'cause I
10	could see that pretty clearly. And he also had a
11	guy who was right on him. He was like right like
12	almost kneeling right next to him explaining what to
13	do and making sure that that it was done
14	properly. But I also did get the impression that it
15	was relatively token in the procedure as well
16	because it just didn't seem like it just didn't
17	seem like he was doing anything all that serious.
18	Just my perception.
19	So anyway, the this maneuver started and
20	and we were shooting up towards the top. And we
21	must have surfaced and and I heard this I
22	didn't feel any major shudder or anything like that.
23	I in fact, I can't even recall the sensation of
24	of us shooting up and and and like,

1 slamming back down into the water. I don't -- I 2 don't even recall that. I was very -- I quess I was 3 braced so heavily against this desk that the desk 4 probably cushioned me from any major blows 'cause I wasn't having to hold onto something above me where 5 my body would go in whatever direction we were 6 7 going. I was just --8 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. 9 MS. SCHNUR: -- hugging this podium thing. 10 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. MS. SCHNUR: And -- but I did hear -- I did 11 12 hear a sound, and it sounded rather odd but -- but not ever having done this before I didn't know if 13 14 that was something that -- you know, it could have 15 been us slamming down. It could have been anything 16 But I was looking at -- throughout the entire thing I was -- I was -- I was pretty much 17 18 watching the commander 'cause I was -- I was

- 23 And -- and as that noise happened I -- I --
- 24 I was looking at his face and it -- his face kind of

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That's -- that's what I was focusing on.

relatively in awe of him and -- and his control and

his poise and his -- just the way that he handled

his crew and commanded this -- the respect of his

19

20

21

2.2

crew.

- 1 turned white and he -- and he said, Jesus, what the
- 2 hell was that?
- 3 And I'm thinking that it was -- it was the
- 4 officer in charge but I don't know, but somebody
- 5 responded to him, I don't know, sir, I don't know.
- 6 And at that point I saw Pfeiffer -- I think
- 7 he came in from the sonar room but I do not know for
- 8 sure. They were kind of looking around. They --
- 9 they -- they -- they pulled the periscope around and
- 10 pretty quickly they locked onto the -- the -- the
- 11 boat that they had hit. And we could see this on
- 12 the screen. As soon as they realized what happened
- 13 I believe the captain said, that is the -- the --
- 14 and he said the name but to me it sounded like Iwo
- 15 Jima. I don't -- but he said -- it was clear that
- 16 he said the name of the boat.
- 17 At that point the XO said, sir, should we
- 18 escort our guests? And we were told then to go down
- 19 to the -- the crew's mess. And so we went down to
- 20 the crew's mess and --
- 21 MS. BEAL: So the XO came out of the sonar
- 22 room at that point and that's when he asked if he
- 23 should -- escort the guests?
- MS. SCHNUR: Yes.

- 1 MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 2 MS. SCHNUR: I'm pretty sure he came out of
- 3 the sonar room, but -- but I'm not 100 percent sure.
- 4 MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 5 MS. SCHNUR: But that's where he became
- 6 visual to me.
- 7 MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 8 MS. SCHNUR: And -- and he would have come
- 9 by us, and so I -- I'm pretty sure that's what
- 10 happened.
- MS. BEAL: And did you hear any
- 12 conversation in the sonar room during this event?
- MS. SCHNUR: I -- no.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: No. I wasn't paying any
- 16 attention to it.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 18 MS. SCHNUR: And I'm not sure I could have
- 19 anyway. They have a curtain that's drawn.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 21 MS. SCHNUR: And they talk -- they talk
- 22 pretty quietly in there.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: So anyway, we went down to the

- 1 -- the crew's mess, and they --
- MS. BEAL: Well, let's back up. When they
- 3 -- when the periscope then locked on the fishing
- 4 vessel in distress, what -- can you describe what
- 5 you saw?
- 6 MS. SCHNUR: I saw a boat, and I said to
- 7 whomever was around me, we need to get out of here.
- 8 And I immediately tried looking around for
- 9 direction on how to -- 'cause I knew. I mean you
- 10 knew something was wrong and -- and there was no
- 11 place for us where we were.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 13 MS. SCHNUR: They obviously needed to do
- 14 what they needed to do. So I personally was trying
- 15 to get direction as to how we can get out of their
- 16 way so they can handle what needed to be handled.
- 17 Not that we were in the way. I'm not insinuating
- 18 that at all.
- MS. BEAL: Right. I understand.
- 20 MS. SCHNUR: But I realized our place
- 21 wasn't there.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: And so I was not watching the
- 24 screen anymore.

1	MS. BEAL: Okay.
2	MS. SCHNUR: I I I saw the boat. I
3	thought I knew what happened. I didn't know for
4	sure until we got down to the crew's mess where they
5	also had the flat screen down there. And that's
6	when we saw the boat taking on water very fast.
7	MS. BEAL: Okay.
8	MS. SCHNUR: And that's when it hit me the
9	reality of what had happened.
10	Now, on my way down I was trying to decide
11	to myself whether or not we were going down, too.
12	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
13	MS. SCHNUR: Because obviously we had hit
14	something.
15	MS. BEAL: Sure.
16	MS. SCHNUR: I had no way of knowing. I
17	didn't know their language. I wasn't really
18	listening to their language nor would I have been
19	able to understand because they were they were
20	the commands that they were talking about were
21	things that I didn't understand. And it wasn't for
22	a little while before I heard the captain say when
23	we were down in the when we were in the mess
24	and we weren't there very long, but when he said

- that we were going to be turning in a search and
  rescue did I realize that we were probably okay
- 3 because we wouldn't have been going on the search
- 4 and rescue had we not been okay.
- 5 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 6 MS. SCHNUR: So I guess, on the selfish
- 7 standpoint, that's what I was worried about on our
- 8 quick journey from the control room down to the --
- 9 the mess where we were asked to be.
- And we were only in there a couple minutes
- 11 and the -- the commander got on and said something
- 12 to the effect of -- very professionally, very
- 13 compassionately he was saying that -- that -- that
- 14 we -- and this was to everybody, that -- that --
- 15 that we had hit the whatever, the boat was -- still
- 16 can't pronounce it. We're going to be turning into
- 17 search and rescue. I would like our visitors to be
- 18 escorted to the torpedo room because the -- the
- 19 crew's mess as well as the officer's mess needed to
- 20 turn into -- I don't remember the -- the words they
- 21 used but something that made me realize it was going
- 22 to be a triage.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: And -- and the crew was

- already starting to get ready for that. And -- and he talked about the divers getting ready and -- and
- 3 talking to his crew about to -- to keep calm, to --
- 4 to realize that this is what we always trained for
- 5 and here we are and let's do it the right way.
- And so we got down to the torpedo room and
- 7 just -- just -- we just waited there and got briefed
- 8 here and there for I don't know how long that it was
- 9 we were -- we were down there before -- before we
- 10 were moved on to the next thing. I think -- I don't
- 11 know how long it was. It may have been an hour, it
- may have been two hours, I -- I really don't know.
- MS. BEAL: Right.
- 14 MS. SCHNUR: But at some point we were
- moved back up to the -- the crew's mess. I guess
- 16 when they realized that -- that they weren't going
- 17 to be able to take anyone in.
- 18 And -- and we heard those conversations too
- 19 that -- and there was a point in time when we were
- in the torpedo room that they asked if anybody spoke
- 21 -- or they started out with Chinese. Did anybody
- 22 speak Chinese? We're having communications
- 23 problems. We're trying to tell them that the waters
- 24 are too choppy, that it's not safe for them to come

- 1 here but we can't get through to them because they
- 2 don't -- we're having a communication barrier.
- 3 And then -- then shortly thereafter they
- 4 realized, I guess, it was Japanese and asked if
- 5 anybody spoke Japanese. And if so, we -- we really
- 6 need to -- to try to be able to communicate because
- 7 they're not understanding what it is we're saying
- 8 and they need to understand that -- that -- that it
- 9 would be way too risky for them to try to get on our
- 10 ship and that the Coast Guard's within 10 minutes or
- 11 15 minutes away.
- MS. BEAL: And now we're -- you're in the
- 13 torpedo room at this point. Were there screens in
- 14 there?
- MS. SCHNUR: No. We saw nothing --
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 17 MS. SCHNUR: -- after we left that mess.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 19 MS. SCHNUR: We saw nothing on the outside
- anyway.
- 21 MS. BEAL: When you were in the mess could
- 22 you see people trying to get off the --
- MS. SCHNUR: No. I --
- 24 MS. BEAL: -- of the Ehime Maru?

1	MS. SCHNUR: didn't see anybody.
2	MS. BEAL: No?
3	MS. SCHNUR: No.
4	MS. BEAL: You saw no people?
5	MS. SCHNUR: I saw no people.
6	MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.
7	MS. SCHNUR: Just saw the boat
8	MS. BEAL: Uh huh.
9	MS. SCHNUR: taking on a lot of water.
10	MS. BEAL: Uh huh.
11	MS. SCHNUR: That's why I was very
12	surprised and thrilled when I heard that 26 people
13	survived 'cause I I don't know where they were
14	when we were watching it, but but you know, they
15	were very the the periscope can focus in on
16	and and really it was taking in the ship. It
17	wasn't taking the waters around it.
18	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
19	MS. SCHNUR: So if they were in the waters
20	around it we wouldn't have seen it
21	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
22	MS. SCHNUR: with the view that they
23	had.

MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Okay.

24

1	MS. SCHNUR: And I didn't we didn't I
2	I didn't see anybody trying to get off the
3	boat as it was taking on water. I just I just
4	did not I did not see any people at all.
5	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Okay.
6	Okay. Anything else?
7	MS. SCHNUR: I'm trying to think. I mean
8	from there on we were just getting briefings. We
9	were up in the mess and at some point they decided
L O	that they were going to keep us overnight. And
L1	and I've got to say they were they were a
L 2	wonderful crew. They from the commander all the
L3	way on down they they really took care of us from
L 4	the moment we got on to the moment we left. Even
L 5	even through the tragedy and the accident they all
L 6	showed respect for their job, respect for the the
L 7	other crew members, respect for their guests,
L8	respect for their position. You knew that they were
L9	all scared and didn't know what was coming but they
20	all did their jobs and they all did it
21	professionally.
22	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
23	MS. SCHNUR: And compassionately.
0.4	MS REAL: Why were you why were you

- 1 told you were going to be spending the night on the
- 2 boat?
- 3 MS. SCHNUR: Because they wanted to assist
- 4 with the search and rescue and the waters were too
- 5 choppy for any sort of transfer out there, which is
- 6 why we didn't take the survivors on board, because
- 7 they -- the water was too choppy and it would have
- 8 been too risky.
- 9 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay. And during the
- 10 course of the night were there conversations between
- 11 the crew and the civilians regarding what had
- 12 happened?
- 13 MS. SCHNUR: No. Well, when we were in the
- 14 torpedo room there was an officer, and I want to say
- 15 it was Harris. Not 100 percent sure. He was -- he
- 16 was African American. I don't -- I can't even --
- 17 age, probably mid 20s. He came down to brief us.
- 18 And the first time he came down to brief us he told
- 19 us that we had hit -- that we had hit what looked to
- 20 be a whaling boat. And I don't remember what he
- 21 told -- the what -- what I remember distinctly about
- that conversation is he said, well, we're not sure
- 23 if it went down. Like that it went down and -- and
- 24 -- and from what we saw in the -- in the officer's

Τ	mess we were sure that it went down
2	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
3	MS. SCHNUR: 'cause the way the water
4	was taken it would have been very shocking had
5	had the had had it not gone down. But but
6	that was pretty shortly after we were down there and
7	I think he was just trying to calm our nerves or
8	assure us or whatever.
9	But after after that there was a
10	chief of staff, and he did brief us. Do I remember
11	what it was he well, yeah, he did he did he
12	did tell us that he ended up telling us when they
13	knew it was a fishing trawler. He told us that
14	that that 26 were in lifeboats and and also
15	once they had gotten rescued that they were rescued,
16	that they think that there was nine missing. They
17	told us that. He told us it was Japanese. He told
18	us as the night and morning transpired he he
19	was the one the chief of staff was the one who
20	who took notes from us as to who we wanted called to
21	let them know we were okay since we were going to be
22	staying overnight. He let us know that I think
23	he was the one who let us know that that the
2.4	incident had gone very high profile, that that

- 1 there was what they thought to be a news camera that
- 2 had taken pictures and that it had become an
- 3 international incident involving very high-level
- 4 people.
- 5 Yeah, they did keep us informed. But did
- 6 they ever talk about what happened? No. We still
- 7 don't know what happened.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 9 MS. SCHNUR: I'm not sure they knew what
- 10 happened. If they did, no, they didn't tell us.
- 11 MS. BEAL: Right. I understand.
- MS. SCHNUR: But the commander came in and
- 13 briefed us several times, even up until the very
- 14 last time. He came in and he just -- he apologized
- 15 profusely for the experience that we had had. It
- 16 wasn't supposed to be that way. It was supposed to
- 17 be a lot of fun. He had promised us initially that
- 18 he was going to sign a picture and -- and make sure
- 19 that we had that as a souvenir. And he told us that
- 20 -- that -- kind of early on in the evening that --
- 21 he said, I know you're going to think I'm crazy for
- thinking about this but I haven't forgotten about
- the things that I promised you and that's part of
- 24 what I do.

1	He told us the motto of the ship, and I
2	know honesty and integrity was there. I don't
3	remember the third component. He told us to try to
4	remember what it is we saw and to speak the truth
5	about it and to not embellish at all, that the truth
6	is always what needs to come out in the end. And
7	then and then upon he came in as we were
8	going back into Pearl Harbor that next morning he
9	came in with our pictures. Again he apologized that
10	we we had to have the experience that we had and
11	and it doesn't typically work that way. And he -
12	- he said he didn't know what his own future was but
13	that he hopes that we remember that that
14	everybody on that ship stands for that motto, which
15	was the honesty, integrity, and the other component
16	which I don't seem to be able to remember right now.
17	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
18	MS. SCHNUR: And just very classy. Very,
19	very, very classy.
20	Said that I'm commander of the ship.
21	Everything comes down to me. I apologize. I I
22	don't want you to think negatively of the Navy or
23	the military. I mean all just all the right
24	class things that that to say, knowing what he

- 1 was going through.
- MS. BEAL: Yeah. Okay. Susan, when you
- 3 were in the command room, do you remember who was
- 4 standing around you?
- 5 MS. SCHNUR: My husband Tony was right off
- 6 to my right.
- 7 MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 8 MS. SCHNUR: To my --
- 9 MS. BEAL: So what -- okay. So off to your
- 10 right then was toward where the -- where the
- 11 controls were or --
- MS. SCHNUR: No. It would have been closer
- 13 to the sonar room.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: He would have been closer to
- 16 the sonar room.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: I think that Koshy Wyatt was
- 19 near us.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 21 MS. SCHNUR: I think to my left was Mrs.
- 22 Clary. I don't know her first name. She -- she
- 23 wasn't in our group. And that's all I remember who
- 24 were right by us.

- 1 MS. BEAL: Okay. That's fine. That's --
- 2 yeah. That helps. Okay. I mean, you know, it
- 3 helps us to visualize who all was where in that
- 4 room, so that -- that helps us --
- 5 MS. SCHNUR: I -- and I hope I don't mess
- 6 you up. I'm -- I'm only trying to make sure that I
- 7 --
- 8 MS. BEAL: Well, no, we're getting
- 9 statements from everybody, so you know, I mean we'll
- 10 -- we'll put all these pieces together and come up
- 11 with, you know, some sort of a picture.
- MS. SCHNUR: Hopefully I didn't mislead you
- in any way, shape, or form.
- MS. BEAL: Yeah, yeah. So anything else
- that you would like to share with us?
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: Not that I can think of. I
- 17 may come up with something --
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- MS. SCHNUR: -- later, but I -- I don't
- 20 think -- do you have any questions?
- 21 MS. BEAL: No, I -- I -- you know, I think
- that, you know, so long as you gave me everything
- you remember from the time you reached the base.
- 24 And then the next day.

1	Okay. Well, we didn't talk about how you
2	got off the boat. Then I guess they sent a they
3	sent another boat out to to pick you up?
4	MS. SCHNUR: It was like a it was like a
5	ferry. Well well, and then the night we spent
6	we ended up spending the majority they asked if -
7	- if we wanted to eat and they had set up food in
8	the in the crew's mess. And then and then we
9	all ended up in the officer's mess where they
10	they brought out cards. They they had DVDs
11	available for people who wanted to watch movies on
12	their little flat screen that's in the officer's
13	mess. They they brought, like, snacks and things
14	in there.
15	And and when people were ready to go to
16	bed they escorted them down to they had cleared
17	out a a quarters. I think they said it was a 21-
18	bed area, and that's where the civilians were going
19	to be able to sleep.
20	MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
21	MS. SCHNUR: And I stayed I know I
22	stayed up in the officer's mess until probably 1:00,
23	and then I finally couldn't handle anymore and
24	and was escorted down to where my I know they

- 1 don't call it bunk but whatever it is they call
- 2 those. And -- and I stayed in there till about
- 3 5:00, got out, went to breakfast where they were
- 4 serving breakfast in the crew's mess, and stayed in
- 5 the crew's mess -- no, I didn't stay there for that
- 6 long. We ate and then we went back to the officer's
- 7 mess where we stayed there until it was time for us
- 8 to get off. And we were off-loaded onto this ferry
- 9 where we were transported back into the harbor. And
- 10 then we went to a debriefing room.
- MS. BEAL: And what happened there?
- MS. SCHNUR: A very quick conversation.
- 13 The -- we all sat down. It was like a theater
- 14 almost. Admiral -- I think his name's Knepsky or
- 15 something of that nature, something like that. He
- spoke, apologized for us being involved in that,
- 17 tried to let us know where it stood, that it was an
- international incident and the press is pretty
- 19 heavily on it. Again, told us that -- that they
- 20 would not release our names until they were forced
- 21 to release our names. They told us that -- that
- definite -- no, he -- he said probably the NTSB will
- 23 be conducting its own investigation, that they were
- 24 going to cooperate and that if we were called -- if

- 1 we chose to we should cooperate. And then again
- 2 told us to -- to -- to tell the truth, the truth as
- 3 you saw it and as you remember it.
- 4 And again, apologized and -- and that was
- 5 about it. It was very quick.
- MS. BEAL: Okay.
- 7 MS. SCHNUR: I was kind of surprised it
- 8 wasn't more than that, but again, I don't know what
- 9 more they would have done except maybe some grief
- 10 kind of stuff.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: But.
- 13 MS. BEAL: And have you had any further
- 14 communication with them since that time?
- MS. SCHNUR: With the Navy?
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 17 MS. SCHNUR: We have talked to -- I don't
- 18 know what his title is, but it's Warner. He's --
- 19 he's involved in public relations.
- MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 21 MS. SCHNUR: We talked to him because --
- 22 I'm trying to think. Three or four days after the -
- the incident we started getting calls from NBC in
- 24 Houston.

- 1 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- MS. SCHNUR: And we didn't really know how
- 3 to handle the press and we wanted his advice.
- 4 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.
- 5 MS. SCHNUR: Of course, he didn't tell us
- 6 what to do.
- 7 MS. BEAL: Right.
- 8 MS. SCHNUR: He just said, well, these are
- 9 some of your options. You can choose not to talk to
- 10 them, you can choose to refer them directly to me if
- 11 you want, and he gave us the phone number where the
- 12 press could contact him. And he just kind of let us
- 13 go. And so we've had, I would say, two or three
- 14 conversations with him strictly regarding how to
- 15 handle the press.
- MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.
- 17 MS. SCHNUR: Again, nobody's told us what
- 18 happened, how it happened, anything like that. But
- 19 --
- 20 MS. BEAL: So there have been no further
- 21 communications, then, regarding the incident -- the
- 22 accident itself? Just --
- MS. SCHNUR: No. I would love to know. I
- 24 mean I would love to know who to call to ask about

- 1 it, but no, huh uh. It's just really been strictly
- 2 how to handle the press.
- MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.
- 4 MS. SCHNUR: And there's been -- we've had
- 5 probably two or three conversations.
- 6 MS. BEAL: Okay. Very good. Very good.
- 7 All righty. Well, do you -- if you don't have
- 8 anything else, I don't think I do at this point.
- 9 MS. SCHNUR: Okay.
- 10 MS. BEAL: Like I said, I would like to
- 11 reserve the right to call you back if we need some
- 12 additional information. Other people will, like I
- 13 said, be listening to this tape and, you know,
- 14 putting together this with the other interviews from
- 15 the other passengers to try to give us a clear
- 16 picture of --
- MS. SCHNUR: Okay.
- MS. BEAL: -- you know, of what was going
- 19 on in that room.
- MS. SCHNUR: Will you potentially call me
- 21 for clarification if something --
- MS. BEAL: Yes, absolutely.
- MS. SCHNUR: Okay. That's fine.
- MS. BEAL: If we have any -- if we -- you

- 1 know, if we have any -- any further questions either
- 2 I or somebody else from the --
- 3 MS. SCHNUR: Okay.
- 4 MS. BEAL: -- the investigation will give
- 5 you a call if need be.
- 6 And you feel free -- you have -- you still
- 7 have the number for our command center?
- 8 MS. SCHNUR: I do.
- 9 MS. BEAL: Okay. You feel free to call me
- 10 if you have any questions or if you think of
- anything, you know, that you didn't talk about that
- 12 you think may be of interest to us. You know, feel
- 13 free to give us a call. We're -- we'll be happy to
- 14 take any additional information as it becomes
- 15 available.
- 16 MS. SCHNUR: Okay. And we -- we -- or I
- 17 will get a transcript?
- 18 MS. BEAL: Sure. Yeah. I don't know --
- 19 I'm not sure how they handle it. I don't know
- 20 whether we'll just make you a copy of the tape or
- 21 whether we'll actually send you a transcript or
- 22 both.
- MS. SCHNUR: Okay.
- MS. BEAL: I'm not sure. Most of the

1	marine office is in Hawaii and and so, you know,
2	there are some of us that are sort of chipping in
3	here to help out. And I'm not sure how that office
4	handles it exactly, but
5	MS. SCHNUR: Okay.
6	MS. BEAL: but, you know, you definitely
7	will get something from us. All righty?
8	MS. SCHNUR: Sounds good.
9	MS. BEAL: Good. Has your husband come
10	home?
11	MS. SCHNUR: He has. Let me go find him,
12	okay?
13	MS. BEAL: All righty.
14	MS. SCHNUR: Just a moment.
15	MS. BEAL: Thank you, Susan. Good talking

- MS. SCHNUR: Thank you.
- (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

19

16

to you.